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PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 8th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 4 May 1995, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. KAMAL (Pakistan)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.45 p.m.

TRANSFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME INTO AN EXECUTIVE BOARD (E/1995/9, E/1995/14 and Add.1)

The PRESIDENT said that it was his understanding that delegations wished to postpone consideration of the item to a later date. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council agreed to the postponement.

It was so decided.

ELECTIONS, NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to proceed with the elections of members of a number of bodies. A list of the names of candidates received as of 6 p.m. on 3 May 1995 had been distributed to delegations.

Commission on Human Settlements (E/1995/L.8)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 19 members of the Commission on Human Settlements for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1996. In that connection, he drew delegations' attention to document E/1995/L.8.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the following list of candidates: Kenya, the Sudan and Tunisia for the five vacancies for the Group of African States; Barbados, Colombia and Mexico for the three vacancies for the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; India, Jordan and Sri Lanka for the five vacancies for the Group of Asian States; Germany, Denmark, Norway and Spain for the four vacancies for the Group of Western European and Other States and Bulgaria and the Czech Republic for the two vacancies for the Group of Eastern European States.

Mr. RAMOUL (Observer for Algeria) said that Algeria was on the list of candidacies submitted for the current election by the representative of the Executive Secretariat of the Organization of African States (OAU) for the Group of African States.

The PRESIDENT said that Algeria would be added to the list of candidates from the Group of African States, namely, Kenya, the Sudan and Tunisia.

Since the number of candidates submitted by the various groups of States was less than or equal to the number of vacancies, he suggested that those candidates should be elected by acclamation and that the Council should postpone to a later date the election of one member from the African States and two members from the Asian States.

It was so decided.

Algeria, Barbados, Bulgaria, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, India, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, Norway, Spain, Sudan, Sri Lanka and Tunisia were elected members of the Commission on Human Settlements by acclamation.

Statistical Commission (E/1995/L.7)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect eight members of the Statistical Commission for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1996. In that connection, he drew the Council's attention to document E/1995/L.7.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the following list of candidates: Togo and the Sudan for the two vacancies for the African States; no candidate for the vacancy for the Latin American and Caribbean States; China and Pakistan for the two vacancies for the Asian States; the United States of America for the vacancy for the Western European and Other States; and Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Romania and Slovakia for the two vacancies for the Eastern European States.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since in the case of the African States, the Latin American and Caribbean States, the Asian States and the Western European and Other States, the number of candidates proposed was less than or equal to the number of vacancies for those regions, those candidates should be elected by acclamation and the election of one member from the Latin American and Caribbean States should be postponed until a later stage.

It was so decided.

China, Pakistan, the Sudan, Togo and the United States of America were elected members of the Statistical Commission by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said that, since there were more candidates from the Group of Eastern European States than there were vacancies, the Council would elect two members from that Group by secret ballot. Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Romania and Slovakia had submitted their candidacies.

At the invitation of the President, Ms. Albrectsen (Denmark) and Mr. Eboumy (Gabon) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	54
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	54
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28

Number of votes obtained:

Bulgaria	33
Czech Republic	23
Romania	31
Slovak Republic	20

Having obtained the required majority, Bulgaria and Romania were elected members of the Statistical Commission.

Commission on Population and Development (E/1995/L.7)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect nine members of the Commission on Population and Development for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1996. In that connection, he drew the Council's attention to document E/1995/L.7.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the following list of candidates: Egypt, Kenya and the Sudan for the three vacancies for the African States; Brazil for the vacancy for the Latin American and Caribbean States; Indonesia and Japan for the two vacancies for the Asian States; and France, the Netherlands and Spain for the two vacancies for the Western European and Other States. For the Group of Eastern European States, Romania had withdrawn its candidacy and Bulgaria was now the candidate supported by the Group.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the number of candidates proposed by the Group of African States, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of Asian States was equal to the number of vacancies for those Groups, those candidates should be elected by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Brazil, Bulgaria, Egypt, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya and the Sudan were elected members of the Commission on Population and Development by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said that Nigeria had submitted its candidacy for the one remaining vacancy left over from previous sessions, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1997.

Since there were no other candidates, he took it that the Council wished to elect Nigeria by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Nigeria was elected a member of the Commission on Population and Development by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT announced that, since the number of candidates proposed by the Group of Western European States was greater than the number of vacancies, a vote would be taken by secret ballot to elect two members from that Group. France, the Netherlands and Spain had submitted their candidacies.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Asirdin (Indonesia) and Mr. Terrazas (Mexico) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Invalid ballots: 0

Number of valid ballots: 54

Abstentions: 0

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Netherlands 48

France 34

Spain 25

Having obtained the required majority, the Netherlands and France were elected members of the Commission on Population and Development.

Commission for Social Development (E/1995/L.7)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 11 members of the Commission for Social Development for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1996. He drew attention to document E/1995/L.7 in that regard.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the list of candidates: Gabon and the Sudan for the two vacancies for the African States;

Peru and Venezuela for the two vacancies for the Latin American and Caribbean States; Japan and the Republic of Korea for the two vacancies allocated to the Asian States; France, Germany and the United States of America for the three vacancies for the Western European and Other States; and Belarus and the Russian Federation for the two vacancies for the Eastern European States.

The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates in all groups was equal to the number of vacancies, he would take it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Belarus, France, Gabon, Germany, Japan, Peru, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the Sudan, the United States of America and Venezuela were elected members of the Commission for Social Development by acclamation.

Commission on Human Rights (E/1995/L.7)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 14 members of the Commission on Human Rights for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1996. He drew attention to the information contained in document E/1995/L.7.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the list of candidates: for the four vacancies for the Group of African States, the candidacies of Guinea, Madagascar, Mali and Uganda were supported by the Group, and Nigeria had also submitted its candidacy; for the two vacancies for the Latin American and Caribbean States, the candidates were Brazil and Mexico; for the four vacancies for the Group of Asian States, the candidacy of Qatar had been supported by the Group, and Malaysia, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea had also submitted their candidacies; for the three vacancies for Western European and Other States, the candidates were Denmark, France and the United States of America; and for the two vacancies for the Group of Eastern European States, the candidacies of Belarus and Ukraine had been supported by the Group.

Mr. TSHERING (Bhutan), speaking as Chairman of the Group of Asian States, said that full agreement had not been reached on the list of candidacies for his Group. Four countries, Malaysia, Pakistan, Qatar and the Republic of Korea, had submitted their candidacies, but only the candidacy of Qatar had received support. He drew attention to the letter dated 21 April 1994 from the Chairman of the Group of Asian States to the President of the Economic and Social Council informing him that, following a special emergency meeting held on 20 April 1994, the Group of Asian States had approved the candidacy of Qatar by

acclamation, on the understanding that its candidacy would not be affected by the other candidacies that Asian States might submit for the vacancy allocated to them.

Mr. OTUYELU (Nigeria) said that the African States had not agreed on a list, which was why his country had maintained its candidacy.

Mr. LOPES DA ROSA (Guinea-Bissau), speaking as Chairman of the nominating committee of the Group of African States, explained that the four candidacies supported by his Group could be found in the document distributed to delegations, but that Nigeria, as a sovereign State, had every right to submit its candidacy.

The PRESIDENT, summarizing the situation, said that two groups had not reached agreement on a list and that the Council would therefore have to hold elections. He requested the Secretary to read out the provisions of the Council's rules of procedure concerning elections, particularly in cases where a group had reached only partial agreement on its candidates, or supported only part of a list of candidates.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council), referring to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, said that all elections were held by secret ballot, unless, in the absence of any objection, the Council decided to proceed without taking a ballot on an agreed candidate, when there was only one vacancy, or on an agreed slate, when there was more than one vacancy and the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies. When candidates were to be nominated, each nomination should be made by only one representative.

Mr. SREENIVASAN (India) said that the Council could decide to elect without a vote even a candidate on whom there had been only partial agreement, and that a precedent already existed. He therefore proposed that, pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure, the Council should elect without a vote a candidate or slate on which there was some agreement.

The PRESIDENT explained that the decision taken by the Council at its 1994 organizational session, to which the representative of India was referring, had been an exception, and not the usual practice of the General Assembly. It could not therefore be considered a precedent.

Mr. DANGUE REWAKA (Gabon) recalled that a similar case had arisen regarding the African States' representation on the Commission on Sustainable Development. As far as Qatar was concerned, the coordinator of the Group of

Asian States had said that the subgroup had supported its candidacy. That was clear from the letter mentioned by the representative of Bhutan. The Council could, therefore, elect Qatar without a vote.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council), endorsing the President's remarks, underlined the exceptional nature of the decision taken by the Council at a previous organizational session and noted that it had been duly clarified at the time that such a decision would not constitute a precedent.

Ms. BWOMEZI (Uganda) noted that if such a decision was to be used as a precedent, the nominations of Madagascar and Uganda, which had been endorsed by the countries of the East African sub-region, would give rise to the same debate.

The PRESIDENT, summing up the situation, said he was surprised that the issue of "sub-groups" had been raised. As far as he was concerned, such an approach was unprecedented and it suggested that exceptions had become the rule. Article 68 was unambiguous and the Council would have to proceed to a vote.

Mr. KANE (Observer for Mauritania) said that he had not been present at the start of the debate, and explained in his capacity as Chairman of the Group of African States for May that the nominations of Guinea, Madagascar, Mali and Uganda were supported by the group. Nevertheless, Nigeria was perfectly entitled to put forward its candidacy.

Mr. HAMDAN (Observer for Lebanon) suggested that, if there was no objection, the Council should elect without a vote the candidates supported by the regional groups.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the number of candidates nominated by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, the Group of Western European and Other States and the Group of Eastern European States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by each group, those candidates should be elected by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Belarus, Brazil, Denmark, France, Mexico, Ukraine and the United States of America were elected members of the Commission on Human Rights by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates nominated by the two other groups exceeded the number of vacancies to be filled, the Council would proceed to a secret ballot, the number of vacancies to be filled being four for the Group of African States and three for the Group of Asian States.

At the invitation of the President, Ms. Hutton (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Mr. Raichev (Bulgaria) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Number of valid ballots: 54

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Group of African States:

Uganda 52

Guinea 48

Madagascar 47

Mali 45

Nigeria 21

Group of Asian States:

Republic of Korea 44

Malaysia 42

Pakistan 37

Qatar 34

Having obtained the required majority, Guinea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Pakistan, Republic of Korea and Uganda were elected members of the Commission on Human Rights.

Commission on the Status of Women

The PRESIDENT said that 10 vacancies needed to be filled for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1996.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the list of candidates: Mali and Swaziland for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of African States; China and Lebanon for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Asian States; Slovakia for the vacancy to be filled by the Group of Eastern European States; Brazil, Chile and the Dominican Republic for the three vacancies to be filled by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Norway and the United States of America for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Western European and Other States.

The PRESIDENT noted that the number of candidates nominated by the five groups of States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by those regions, and invited the Council to elect the candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Brazil, Chile, China, the Dominican Republic, Lebanon, Mali, Norway, Slovakia, Swaziland and the United States of America were elected members of the Commission on the Status of Women by acclamation.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The PRESIDENT said that 33 vacancies needed to be filled for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1996.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the list of candidates: Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria, Sudan, South Africa and Tunisia for the seven vacancies to be filled by the Group of African States; India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Syrian Arab Republic and Thailand for the eight vacancies to be filled by the Group of Asian States; the Czech Republic, Bulgaria and Poland for the three vacancies to be filled by the Group of Eastern European States; Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Jamaica and Venezuela for the six vacancies to be filled by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America for the nine vacancies to be filled by the Group of Western European and Other States; the list also included other nominations that had not been endorsed by the group.

The PRESIDENT noted that the number of candidates nominated by four groups of States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by those regions, and invited the Council to elect those candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Algeria, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia and Venezuela were elected members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said that, since the number of candidates nominated by the Group of Western European and Other States exceeded the number of vacancies to be filled by that group, the Council would proceed to a secret ballot.

At the invitation of the President, Ms. Dorjee (Bhutan) and Mr. Prendergast (Jamaica) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28

Number of votes obtained:

Germany	50
Netherlands	48
Canada	46
Portugal	46
United States of America	45
France	43
Italy	43
Sweden	40
Greece	39
Turkey	32
Switzerland	29
Denmark	1
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1

Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden and the United States of America were elected members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Commission on Sustainable Development

The PRESIDENT said that 20 vacancies needed to be filled for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1996.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the list of candidates: Benin, Central African Republic, Gabon, Mozambique and Zimbabwe for the five vacancies to be filled by the Group of African States; China, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Thailand for the four vacancies to be filled by the Group of Asian States; the Czech Republic, Poland and the Russian Federation for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Eastern European States; Antigua and

Barbuda, Bolivia, Colombia and Guyana for the four vacancies to be filled by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland for the five vacancies to be filled by the Group of Western European and Other States.

Mr. TSHERING (Bhutan), speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the Group of Asian States, announced that, in order to promote unity of purpose, Kazakstan had withdrawn its candidacy, which it would resubmit in 1996. All the nominations were therefore supported by the Group.

The PRESIDENT noted that the number of candidates nominated by four groups of States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled by those regions and invited the Council to elect those candidates by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Antigua and Barbuda, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Gabon, Germany, Guyana, Mozambique, Pakistan, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Zimbabwe were elected members of the Commission on Sustainable Development by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates proposed by the Group of Eastern European States was greater than the number of vacancies to be filled, a vote would be taken by secret ballot.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Aquarone (Netherlands) and Mr. Rashid (Malaysia) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	54
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28
Number of votes obtained:	
Poland	43
Russian Federation	41
Czech Republic	23

Having obtained the required majority, Poland and the Russian Federation were elected members of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund

The PRESIDENT said that 11 vacancies were to be filled for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1996.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) said that the following countries were candidates: Namibia for the vacancy to be filled by the Group of African States; China and Viet Nam for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Asian States; the Czech Republic, the Russian Federation and Ukraine for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Eastern European States; Cuba and Suriname for the two vacancies to be filled by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Canada, Denmark, Switzerland and Turkey for the four vacancies to be filled by the Group of Western European and Other States.

The PRESIDENT, noting that the number of candidates proposed by four Groups of States corresponded to the number of vacancies to be filled for those regions, proposed that the candidates should be elected by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, Namibia, Suriname, Switzerland, Turkey and Viet Nam were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates proposed by the Group of Eastern European States was greater than the number of vacancies to be filled, a vote would be taken by secret ballot.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Hosny (Egypt) and Ms. Rodriguez (Cuba) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	54
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28

Number of votes obtained:

Ukraine 46

Russian Federation 36

Czech Republic 26

Having obtained the required majority, the Russian Federation and Ukraine were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund.

Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The PRESIDENT said that pursuant to the decision under General Assembly resolution 49/171 to enlarge the membership of the Executive Committee of the programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from 47 to 50, three new seats would have to be filled. In that connection, the candidacies of Bangladesh, India and the Russian Federation had been proposed. He suggested that those candidates should be elected by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Bangladesh, India and the Russian Federation were elected members of the Executive Committee of the programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees by acclamation.

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 11 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1996 (E/1995/L.10).

He drew the attention of delegations to communications from France and Norway informing him that they wished to resign as members of the Executive Board for the remainder of their terms to expire on 31 December 1997.

The group of western European and other States had proposed the candidacies of Finland and Spain to replace France and Norway for the remainder of their terms, beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1997. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Finland and Spain by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Finland and Spain were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund by acclamation.

Mr. ZEBRAKOVSKY (Observer for the Czech Republic) said that his country had withdrawn its candidacy for one of the vacancies to be filled by the Group of Eastern European States in connection with the elections to the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA and requested the Secretariat to reflect that change in the list of candidatures.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) said that the following countries were candidates: Madagascar for the vacancy to be filled by the group of African States; India and Malaysia for the two vacancies to be filled by the group of Asian States; Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, the Russian Federation and Ukraine (unendorsed candidacies) for the two vacancies to be filled by the group of Eastern European States; Argentina and Belize for the two vacancies to be filled by the group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Canada, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States of America for vacancies to be filled by the group of Western European and other States.

The PRESIDENT suggested that since the number of candidates proposed by the Group of African States, the Group of Asian States, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of Western European and other States corresponded to the number of vacancies for those groups, those candidates should be elected by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Argentina, Belize, Canada, India, Madagascar, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States of America were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said that since the number of candidates proposed by the Group of Eastern European States was greater than the number of vacancies to be filled, the Council would proceed to elect, by secret ballot, two members from that Group.

At the invitation of the President, Ms. Bosheck (Germany) and Mr. Jeronimo (Portugal) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Number of invalid ballots: 0

Number of valid ballots: 54

Abstentions: 0

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Romania 31

Ukraine 25

Russian Federation 23

Albania 14

Bulgaria 13

Having obtained the required majority, Romania was elected member of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund.

The PRESIDENT said that with respect to the second vacancy to be filled, a second ballot would be held between the two unsuccessful candidates which had obtained the largest number of votes, namely, Ukraine and the Russian Federation.

At the invitation of the President, Ms. Bosheck (Germany) and Mr. Jeronimo (Portugal) again acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers: 54

Number of invalid ballots: 0

Number of valid ballots: 54

Abstentions: 0

Number of members voting: 54

Required majority: 28

Number of votes obtained:

Ukraine 33

Russian Federation 21

Having obtained the required majority, Ukraine was elected a member of the Governing Council of UNDP/UNFPA.

Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (E/1995/L.11)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect seven members of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) said that only one nomination had been received for the vacancy to be filled by the States on list E (the Group of Eastern European States), namely that of Hungary.

Mr. KUDRYAVTSEV (Russian Federation) said that he would withdraw his country's candidacy for the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes so as not to compete with the other candidate from the Group of Eastern European States, Hungary. He thanked the countries that had decided to support the Russian Federation's candidacy for that important body, which was responsible for supplying food for humanitarian purposes. His delegation would help to ensure that the reform of the World Food Programme's governing body called for in General Assembly resolution 48/162 was successfully implemented in 1995 through the adoption of a set of recommendations that took due account of the interests of all the regional groups. It was to be hoped that by the end of the year new members would be elected to the World Food Programme's Executive Board.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since a vacancy was to be filled by an Eastern European State, the Council should elect the only candidate nominated by acclamation and, with respect to the other vacancies to be filled, should postpone until a later stage the election of two members from among the States on list A, one member from among the States on list B, one member from among the States on list C and two members from among the States on list D.

It was so decided.

Hungary was elected a member of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes by acclamation.

The election of members from among the States on lists A, B, C and D was postponed until a later stage.

Committee for Programme and Coordination (E/1995/L.13)

The PRESIDENT recalled that, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly decision 42/450, the Council was required to nominate seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination for election by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session to fill the vacancies that would occur at the end of 1995. The term of office was three years, beginning on 1 January 1996.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the following list of candidates: Egypt, Togo and Zaire for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; China, Japan and the Republic of Korea for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States; and Uruguay for the vacancy to be filled by a Latin American or Caribbean State.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the number of nominations from the three groups of States was equal to the number of vacancies to be filled in all three cases, the Council should submit for election by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session all the nominations proposed at the current meeting.

It was so decided.

World Food Council (E/1995/L.14)

The PRESIDENT recalled that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3348 (XXIX), paragraph 8, the Economic and Social Council was required to nominate 12 members of the World Food Council for election by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session to fill the vacancies that would occur on 31 December 1995. The term of office was three years, beginning on 1 January 1996.

Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Secretary of the Council) read out the following list of candidates: Algeria, Mali and Togo for the three vacancies to be filled by African States; Cambodia, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Japan for the three vacancies to be filled by Asian States; and Hungary for the vacancy to be filled by an Eastern European State. No nominations had been received from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States or the Group of Western European and Other States.

Mr. TSHERING (Bhutan), speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the Group of Asian States, said that Cambodia had withdrawn its candidacy for the World Food Council. However, the regional group endorsed the candidacies of Japan and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Cambodia would stand for election on a future occasion.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, since the number of nominations from the five groups of States was equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled, the Council should submit for election by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session all the nominations proposed at the current meeting, and postpone until a later stage the nomination of two members from the Group of

Latin American and Caribbean States and three members from the Group of Western European and Other States.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT also suggested that the Council should postpone until a later stage the nomination of one member from the Group of Western European and Other States, which the General Assembly had postponed at its forty-ninth session, and the nomination of one member from the Group of Eastern European States and one member from the Group of Western European and Other States, which the General Assembly had postponed at its forty-eighth session.

It was so decided.

Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The PRESIDENT announced that, on the basis of information provided by the secretariat of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the elections to fill the vacancies that would occur on the Institute's Board of Trustees on 30 June 1995 would be held during the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council.

Mr. SIDDIQ (Sudan) said that he did not understand the reason for the postponement of the election to the Council's substantive session. He wondered why the Council could not hold the election at its organizational session, particularly in view of the fact that one of the regional groups had endorsed a candidate.

The PRESIDENT said that the normal procedure was for the Institute secretariat to issue a note verbale calling for applications, and that had not yet been done. Consequently, it had not been possible to nominate any candidates. The Institute secretariat had informed the Council that the nomination process could take several weeks. It would therefore be materially and technically impossible to hold the election before the Council's substantive session.

Mr. SIDDIQ (Sudan) wished to know why the Council could not take a decision on a candidacy that had already been sponsored by a regional group.

The PRESIDENT said that Council secretariat had been informed that the Republic of Sudan had nominated a candidate through its Permanent Mission to the United Nations rather than through the Chairman of the Group of African States. That could not therefore be said to be a candidacy endorsed by a regional group.

Furthermore, the candidacy should have been addressed to the Council secretariat by the Institute secretariat. Since the Sudan's candidacy had been submitted by neither the regional group nor the Institute, the election would have to be postponed.

Mr. SIDDIQ (Sudan), supported by Mr. KANE (Observer for Mauritania), said that the Sudan's candidacy had been officially endorsed by the Chairman of the Group of African States, who could attest to having done so.

Mr. AGGREY (Ghana), supported by Mr. VIVAS (Venezuela), Mr. OTUYELU (Nigeria) and Miss BOUM (Cameroon), said that if the postponement of the election was justified by the fact that member States had not received an invitation to nominate candidates, then it would appear that the endorsement was null and void as long as the member States had not received such an invitation or indicated that they wished to take part in the election. The Council could not take a decision at present.

Mr. SIDDIQ (Sudan), supported by Mr. AHER (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), said that the Sudan appeared next to Algeria on the official list of the Group of African States transmitted by the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

The CHAIRMAN said that one regional group, namely the Group of African States, had endorsed a candidate without informing the secretariat of the body concerned, namely the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and that, in any case, if the latter had been notified, it had not passed the information on to the Council secretariat. Nor had the Council secretariat received such information from the regional group or from OAU. The list of candidates referred to by the representative of the Sudan had not been submitted in accordance with the normal procedure. Furthermore, the candidate's biographical data had not been sent.

Mr. FERNANDEZ-PALACIOS (Cuba) sought clarification on two points. He wished to know why the letter from the Institute had not been received and whether it had been requested. Secondly, he wondered whether that state of affairs was not linked to the fact that the Executive Director of the Institute had not been appointed, so that the Institute was without a leader.

Mr. STOBY (Director of the Division for Policy Coordination and Economic and Social Council Affairs) said he did not know why the Institute had not transmitted the letter in question, but it would be inaccurate to say that the Institute did not have a leader: there was an acting director. The

organizational situation in which the Institute found itself was not incriminating. In order to adhere to established practice and avoid setting a dangerous precedent which could create a good deal of confusion in the future, it might be advisable, under the circumstances, to postpone the election under discussion to the substantive session.

The PRESIDENT said it appeared that the views of Council members, including those expressed by delegations belonging to the regional group directly concerned, regarding the validity of the Sudan's endorsement were in harmony. He therefore urged the representative of the Sudan to agree to the postponement of the election.

Mr. SIDDIQ (Sudan) said that the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations had received a note verbale from the Institute informing it of vacancies, one of which was allocated to African States. He wondered why the Institute had not transmitted the same information to the Council secretariat. Furthermore, the Council secretariat ought to have the candidate's biographical data. In any event, his delegation would not oppose the postponement of the election if the Council could not immediately take a decision thereon.

The PRESIDENT thanked the representative of the Sudan for agreeing to the postponement of elections to the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Development Institute for the Advancement of Women until the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council.

Elections postponed from earlier sessions

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

Mr. KANE (Observer for Mauritania) said that the Group of African States had endorsed the candidacies of two countries, Egypt and Swaziland, on the basis of information to the effect that it had been allocated two seats. Since the secretariat had confirmed that only one seat had been allocated to the Group, he wished to request that the election should be deferred to enable the regional group to hold consultations with a view to nominating a single candidate.

The PRESIDENT suggested that the election should be postponed until the Group of African States had concluded its consultations on the matter.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should postpone to a later stage the election to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

of two members from among the Western European and other States for a term commencing on the date of election; the election to the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development of three members from among the African States for a term commencing on the date of election; and the election to the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting of one member from among the African States for a term commencing on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1997, two members from among the Latin American and Caribbean States for a term commencing on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1997, and one member from among those States for a term commencing on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1996.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 6.40 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS **E**

Economic and Social Council

PROVISIONAL

E/1995/SR.9
31 May 1995
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Resumed organizational session for 1995

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 9th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 5 May 1995, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. KAMAL (Pakistan)

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The meeting was called to order at 11.35 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 3: BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL (continued) (E/1995/L.17)

Mr. BAILLARGEON (Canada) said that, in submitting the draft decision contained in document E/1995/L.17, his delegation's sole purpose had been to clarify and complement the provisions of Council decision 1995/213 concerning the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development. For the sake of coherence, his delegation had proposed that the mandates of the Commission on Population and Development and the Commission for Social Development should be dealt with simultaneously in the debate on operational activities. While Canada was not inflexible on the subject, it was concerned about ensuring, inter alia, by means of paragraph (b) of the draft decision, that enough time would be devoted to consideration of the issue and that the Council would establish specifically when - in the general debate or in the debate on operational activities - and in what context it would be discussed. The Council could, for example, decide to set up a working group at the end of the debate on operational activities.

Mrs. REBONG (Philippines), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that after carefully considering the draft decision submitted by Canada, the Group of 77 and China had decided to express their agreement with the content of paragraph (a), but felt that paragraph (b) was unnecessary. In its decision 1995/214, the Council had merely decided to discuss the manner in which the discussion on the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development could be organized during the high-level meeting; that issue was already addressed in paragraph (a) of the draft decision. The mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission for Social Development, which were the focus of paragraph (b), would be discussed in the report of that Commission. The report, in turn, would be considered in an appropriate context - such as the general debate - during the substantive session of the Council. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, she proposed that paragraph (b) should be deleted.

The PRESIDENT said it was his understanding that the Group of 77 and China were not opposed to conducting an in-depth discussion on the follow-up to

the World Summit in the general debate of the substantive session, during which all of the countries could address the issues mentioned in paragraph (b) of the draft decision and arrive at a compromise, consensus or agreement on the subject.

Mrs. REBONG (Philippines) said that the Group of 77 and China agreed with the President's interpretation.

Mr. CONTINI (France) said he agreed that the Council should consider the follow-up to the World Summit, especially at work-level meetings. He shared the opinion of the Group of 77 and China concerning paragraph (b) of the draft decision, and thought it should be deleted. With regard to paragraph (a), he proposed that the words "by the United Nations system" should be inserted after the words "preliminary exchange on the follow-up" and that the second part of that paragraph should be deleted.

The PRESIDENT said that the two paragraphs should be considered separately. With regard to paragraph (b), he proposed that the Council should decide to conduct an in-depth discussion, at its substantive session, on the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development; during that discussion, which should take place in the general debate, any country that so desired could request that the debate should focus on the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission for Social Development. The Council's decision would then reflect the consensus reached on the issue. If the Council concurred with that course of action, the President would ask the representative of Canada whether he would agree to delete paragraph (b) of the draft decision.

Mr. BAILLARGEON (Canada), referring to the French proposal, indicated that the entire second part of paragraph (a) was taken from the corresponding passage in Council decision 1995/213 and that his delegation had merely added the phrase "covered by both the International Conference on Population and Development and the World Summit for Social Development". As for paragraph (b), the Canadian delegation noted that a majority of the participants in the current meeting felt that the issue should be discussed in the general debate. However, he wished to know when it would be discussed, under what agenda item and in what manner, and in particular how much time would be devoted to it. If he received definite answers, he could agree to delete paragraph (b) of the draft decision.

The PRESIDENT said that the issue would be included among the social questions to be considered in the general debate from the afternoon meeting of 19 July to the morning meeting of 25 July.

Mrs. REBONG (Philippines) said that the Group of 77 and China did not object to discussing the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development during the Council's general debate.

Ms. ESPINOSA (Mexico) said that it seemed obvious that the Council would consider the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the report of the Commission for Social Development at the same time, and that it would take decisions on both issues. The problem was whether the Council would have enough time.

The PRESIDENT said that it should be possible to ensure that the Council devoted enough time to the consideration of that agenda item.

Ms. JACOBSEN (Norway) said she shared the views of other delegations on the need to establish clearly whether the Council would have enough time to consider the issues under the agenda item in question. That item should be considered in tandem with item 6 (e), which concerned the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development and the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission on Population and Development. She asked the secretariat to organize the meetings so that the Council members could easily link their deliberations on item 5 (f) to those on item 6 (e).

The PRESIDENT took note of the linkage between the two items and said that it might be appropriate to establish a working group to consider them concurrently.

Mr. MAQUIEIRA (Chile), supporting the statement of the representative of Mexico, said that the discussion should not be confined to institutional issues. The Council had a specific mandate to consider the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission for Social Development, but it would also consider the report of the World Summit for Social Development and should therefore have enough time to examine the various components of the follow-up to the Summit as well.

Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria), supported by Mr. PEDROSO CUESTA (Cuba) and Mr. MONGBE (Benin), recalled that the Economic and Social Council was not the only forum in which those issues would be debated. Regardless of the context in which the Council considered the issues at its substantive session, the General

Assembly, and particularly its Second and Third Committees, was the most appropriate setting in which to reflect further on those issues, and would have all the time needed for that purpose. Moreover, unlike the Council, which had only 54 members, the General Assembly was a forum in which all the Member States would have a chance to air their views.

Mr. SINGH (India) said he shared the opinions of the representatives of Mexico and Norway, and suggested that the general debate should be organized so that the meetings devoted to consideration of the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission on Population and Development were scheduled at the end of the debate on economic questions, and the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission for Social Development were considered at the beginning of the debate on social questions. With regard to the President's idea of forming a working group, he recalled that during the debate on coordination issues, the Council would consider a proposed common framework for following up international conferences. It appeared, therefore, that the current meeting was not the proper forum in which to debate the issue.

The PRESIDENT said that he had merely said that it might be necessary to establish a working group. He had never suggested that that should be done at the current meeting. It would be for the Council, at its substantive session, to take such a decision, if it deemed it necessary. He noted, furthermore, that the members present seemed to share the concerns of the Canadian delegation regarding the need to take up the matter at the substantive session and to have sufficient time for that purpose.

Mr. BAILLARGEON (Canada) said that assurances had been given that the questions raised by his delegation would indeed be taken up at the substantive session and that the Council would devote sufficient time to them. He supported the proposals by Norway and India that items 5 (f) and 6 (e) should be taken up consecutively. It seemed a good idea to establish a working group but he agreed that it was premature, at the current stage, to take such a decision.

The PRESIDENT said that it seemed that Canada agreed that paragraph (b) of the draft decision should be deleted.

Paragraph (b) of draft decision E/1995/L.17 was deleted.

Mrs. REBONG (Philippines) said that the second part of paragraph (a) of draft decision E/1995/L.17 was in fact taken from Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/213, which had been concerned only with the follow-up to the

International Conference on Population and Development. The question now was whether to take a separate decision on the consideration of the issues which had been covered by both the International Conference on Population and Development and the World Summit for Social Development. However, those issues could be taken up during the general debate, along with the aspects appearing in paragraph (b) which had just been deleted. She therefore agreed that the second part of paragraph (a) was unnecessary and should be withdrawn.

Mr. BAILLARGEON (Canada) said that the purpose of the second part of paragraph (a) was merely to draw a parallel, with a view to the way in which statements could be prepared, between the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development and that of the World Summit for Social Development. The first part of paragraph (a) corresponded to his delegation's main concern, which was that the World Summit for Social Development should be one of the principal themes of the high-level meeting. His delegation therefore supported the view that the second part of paragraph (a) was not essential and would have no objection to withdrawing it.

The second part of paragraph (a) of draft decision E/1995/L.17 was withdrawn.

Draft decision E/1995/L.17, as orally amended, was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 9: JOINT AND COSPONSORED PROGRAMME ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS/ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (continued)

Draft decision E/1995/L.16

Mr. BUTLER (Australia) said that, following the consultations he had had on the previous day and so as to better reflect the decision which the Council had indicated it was prepared to take, he proposed that draft decision E/1995/L.16 should be revised by adding the following paragraphs:

"The Council further decides to continue informal consultations on the questions of:

(a) Representation on the Programme Coordinating Board of the six co-sponsoring organizations and non-governmental organizations;

(b) The question in which body or bodies elections subsequent to the first election, which will be conducted in the Economic and Social Council, will be conducted.

This decision should be read in conjunction with the statement reporting on consultations coordinated by the Permanent Representative of

Australia, Mr. Butler, on 4 May 1995 [document ...] and statements made by other representatives on the same occasion and at the time of the adoption of this decision."

He stressed that the statement which he had made on the previous day, in which he had referred to the statements made by other representatives which would appear in the relevant summary records, would be published as a Council document and that its contents were an integral part, at the same level as draft decision E/1995/L.16 as revised, of the decision which the Council must take at the current stage of consideration of the question.

Mr. MONGBE (Benin) said that he supported the revision proposed by the representative of Australia. He noted, however, that Africa, the continent with the largest number of States, would have more or less the same number of seats on the Programme Coordinating Board as other continents with fewer States. He understood that the negotiations on the draft decision had been laborious and that it had only been possible to reach a very weak compromise. His delegation joined the consensus, but wished to state for the record that it regarded the draft decision as an exceptional case which could not serve as a precedent.

Mr. PEDROSO CUESTA (Cuba) said that he agreed with the representative of Benin that Africa was underrepresented on the Programme Coordinating Board and that the decision taken should in no way establish a precedent.

Mr. KEITA (Mali) said that he agreed with what had just been said by the representatives of Benin and Cuba about the composition of the Programme Coordinating Board. He also noted that there was an error in the French version of the draft decision: subparagraph (c) of the first paragraph, should read: "three seats for Latin American and Caribbean States", not "five seats".

Draft decision E/1995/L.16, as orally revised, was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said that the resumed organizational session would clearly need to meet again in order to consider the measures to be taken as a result of the decision just adopted and other questions which it had not been possible to take up at the current meeting.

Mr. RAMOUL (Observer for Algeria) said that his delegation understood that the joint and co-sponsored programme on HIV/AIDS needed to be implemented as soon as possible. However, it shared the concern of the Group of 77 about the trend to multiple resumptions of the organizational session of the Council. He believed that all the texts governing the work of the Council should be

respected and that the Council should avoid giving opportunities to any delegations which so wished to request meetings on matters of concern to them, since that could only lead to a proliferation of meetings and a relaxation of the discipline which the Council was supposed to maintain.

The PRESIDENT said that a further resumption of the organizational session was justified for technical reasons. The Council was an organ established by the Charter which could meet when it wished, on condition that all its members were in agreement. It was a sovereign body, and it should not restrict its own sovereignty guaranteed to it under the Charter.

He took it that the Council agreed to resume its organizational session on Thursday, 1 June 1995.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take up the question of Brazil's proposal that the Council, at its resumed organizational session, should consider the draft decision of the Commission on Sustainable Development concerning the establishment of an intergovernmental panel on forests.

He took it that the Council wished to take up the proposal at the next meeting of the resumed organizational session.

It was so decided.

The meeting was suspended at 12.50 p.m. and resumed at 1.06 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (continued) (E/1995/58)

The PRESIDENT recalled that at its 7th meeting, at the request of the representative of Egypt, the Council had agreed to include in the agenda of its resumed organizational session for 1995 a new item entitled "Tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year and World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond". He suggested that the Council should take up that matter.

Mr. SUTOYO (Indonesia), speaking as the Chairman of the Commission for Social Development, said that he had found some factual inconsistencies in the text of the annex to the letter dated 3 February 1995 which he had sent to the President of the Council (E/1995/58). The report of the Commission for Social Development would contain an exact description of the facts concerning the question under consideration and it would then be possible for the Council to take a decision on that basis. He therefore wished to withdraw document

E/1995/58 and hoped to be able to submit the report in question to the Council shortly.

Document E/1995/58 was withdrawn.

The resumed organizational session for 1995 was suspended until 1 June 1995.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.